

The Punta Gorda Herald

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GILCHRIST FOR GOVERNOR FLETCHER FOR SENATOR

TUESDAY'S PRIMARY

Returns Put Them in the Lead.
County Division Ticket Defeated.
Punta Gorda county
Candidates Rejected.

The full and complete returns of Tuesday's primary election have not been received up to the hour THE HERALD goes to press, but those received are sufficient to show that the thinking and real patriotic people of Florida are weary of the selfish, factional and injurious policies of the Stockton-Broward combine; and if those two political corsairs were not fully routed on Tuesday, their doom is sealed and they will "walk the plank" into political oblivion on June 16th. For years, owing to a feature in the city charter giving them the power, they have controlled in their own interests the political and financial affairs of Jacksonville, and four years ago they made a desperate attempt to extend their control over the State itself, but Mr. Broward alone succeeded in carrying out his part of the scheme by winning the governorship. The results have been higher taxes, a wholesale pardoning of criminals, the outright donation of \$5,000 fees of the people's money to lawyers upholding them in their schemes, the utter disregard of the people's wishes expressed in primaries or through executive committees, the vilification of reputable newspapers that refused to support them in their conduct and designs, and other scandals that disgusted all thinking people having at heart the true interests of Florida.

So shrewd, cunning and resourceful have been these two daring political buccaneers that they have succeeded in deceiving many good people into supporting them for the very highest offices, but it is gratifying to deduce from Tuesday's vote as far as received, that many who have heretofore been deluded have at last come to understand the real condition of affairs and have joined with the genuine patriots of the State in a determined and successful effort to prevent Messrs. Stockton and Broward from appropriating to their own selfish designs the offices of governor and United States senator.

Indications of the results of the election began coming in Tuesday night. Gen. Gilchrist, who was here, received that night telegrams of an encouraging nature from various sections of the State. Messages by wire continued coming in all day yesterday, some extending congratulations and all bringing cheering news. Counties and localities conceded to Stockton voted for Gilchrist. Sumter was one of these. A friend at Bushnell in that county wired yesterday: "Bushnell gives Gilchrist 56, Stockton 17."

Suwannee (Live Oak) had been conceded to Stockton, but a message from there yesterday read: "Congratulations! Suwannee county is yours." Similar messages and assurances came from Levy, Alachua, Orange, Osceola, Dade and even Nassau.

Numbers of telegrams from Jacksonville assured Gen. Gilchrist that he had carried Duval by 1200 over both Stockton and Browne. He beat Stockton in Stockton's own home precinct, town and county.

Jeff Browne's home county, Monroe, gave Jeff 820, Gilchrist 200, Stockton 69.

Four precincts out of eight in Osceola gave Gilchrist 186, Stockton 112, Browne 19. The other four increased Gilchrist's lead.

An unofficial report from Polk county gives Browne 221, Gilchrist 847, Stockton 882. This is the county that the Stocktonites claimed by two to one.

Fifteen precincts in Hillsborough outside of Tampa gave Browne 142, Gilchrist 708, Stockton 438.

Returns to the Times-Union up to noon yesterday from 110 precincts in the State gave Gilchrist 300 majority over both his competitors, to which 700 was added from Duval county.

Some of the private despatches received by Gen. Gilchrist up to last night claimed that he had beaten both Stockton and Browne throughout the State, but these, we think, are too sanguine. We are sure, however, that Gilchrist is far ahead of Stockton and that it will be useless and foolish for the latter to go into a second primary. The high man in the first primary always wins in the second. So we feel justified in addressing our distinguished fellow citizen as "Governor Gilchrist," and may God bless him!

The Very Latest.

Private telegram from Jacksonville, 9 o'clock this morning, says Duval gives Gilchrist over 1,700 plurality.

(Special to THE HERALD.)

TAMPA May 21—10 a. m.—Vote in Hillsborough county not yet counted. So far Gilchrist has over 1000 majority throughout the State. He has carried Hillsborough, Duval, DeSoto, Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, Columbia, Alachua, Bradford, Baker, Marion, Volusia, Orange, Osceola, Citrus, Franklin, Lafayette, Nassau, Suwannee, and St. Johns. Looks like Gilchrist would be nominated in first primary. Fletcher leads for Senate.

In Duval county complete returns show Beard 49, Broward 1399, Fletcher 2108, Lamar 1124, Browne 296, Gilchrist 3046, Stockton 1388.

In DeSoto County.

Everywhere in the county, the election was characterized by great earnestness, but general good feeling. No disorders of any kind occurred.

Telegraph and telephone offices were besieged until a late hour Tuesday night, by eager throngs wanting news of the result.

The small precincts finished counting early, that is, before Tuesday midnight, but it took until yesterday afternoon to complete the count of votes cast at Arcadia and Wauchula. This was because there were over eighty names of candidates on every ballot and it was a very tedious job to count them.

As THE HERALD received the

SAVE THE ALLIGATOR.

A Plea for Remedial Legislation to Prevent his Extinction.

The day is coming when the alligator will be as scarce in this State of Florida as the once plentiful buffalo on the western prairies.

The extinction of the alligator is assured unless steps are taken to preserve what is left of these picturesque creatures, by stringent legislative enactment.

It were a thousand pities if we continued idly to watch the slaughter that is daily thinning the ranks, and voiced no protest against the wantonness of this destruction.

Let it be remembered that the alligator is native to but few States in the Union, and if some interest and effort is not made in these Gulf States, in his behalf, he will become as extinct in a few years as the mammoth and mastodon.

Our State must move in the matter.

The virtues of the alligator, the nobility of character of this beloved saurian, are through lack of knowledge hidden from the world at large.

It is not generally known, for example, that here in Punta Gorda the alligator has helped us to solve much of the perplexity of the servant problem, performing many of the duties of household service in a manner as creditable to his intelligence as to his heart.

To the practice of many of our leading citizens of allowing these domesticated lizards to roam their yards at night, unfettered and free, we attribute in our town the happy absence we enjoy of tramps, burglars and yellow dogs.

As a watchdog, the alligator is unsurpassed. His honest bark is enough to put the fear of God into the hearts of all midnight prowlers, and his affection for superfluous dogs is only equaled by his capacity for benevolently assimilating them.

It is due, perhaps, to the vigil-

county vote by telephone, some trifling errors may have occurred in transmission, but the following is substantially correct. It comprises only the vote for the contested offices and for those only in which the greatest interest is felt:

For U. S. Senator—Beard 197, Broward 795, Fletcher 433, Lamar 465.

Governor—Browne 133, Gilchrist 1167, Stockton 657.

State Senator—Barwick 864, Humphries 1219.

Representative—Brown 1225, Bateman 1040.

Sheriff—Freeman, 1198, Hampton 1065.

Clerk—Carlton 1536, Langford 662.

Judge—Brown 1204, Whitney 711.

Assessor—Cooper 883, Murphey 1258.

Collector—Baldwin 711, Campbell 635, Starke 747. Baldwin and Starke must run in the June primary.

Treasurer—Hendry 1377, Williams 728.

The returns bear out THE HERALD's claim made several weeks ago that Gilchrist would get 1200 votes in DeSoto.

GARDEN OF THE UNION FLORIDA IN THE FUTURE

WILL BE KNOWN

To the World As the Foremost of the Non-Mineral Bearing States of the Nation. Opinion of an Eminent Man.

The late Hon. W. D. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, is the author of the following:—For more than three weeks I loitered in what is to be known to the world as the winter farm and garden of the Union, hitherto despised Florida. I speak with deliberation when I say that that state which though admitted to the Union by an act of congress on the same day on which Iowa was admitted, which embraces 10,000 more square miles of territory than Iowa, and whose population numbered 10,000 in excess of Iowa in 1845, had come in 1870 to have 200,000, and I say without fear that time will confirm my assertion that foremost among the non-bearing mineral states of the Union, will be its farm and garden, beautiful Florida, the tip end of the south.

There will be a flora such as no part of the Union can produce, such as neither Mexico, nor Japan, nor China, nor Africa, nor Southern Europe can produce, but where you will find the choicest products of all these lands, whether in the mere flora or the beautiful blossoms of the forthcoming crops of fruit or vegetable. There is a land that combines the soil and climate of all lands, and whose productions for beauty and utility will measure, I almost may say, the possibilities of the productions of all lands. It is a land for sugar par excellence beyond Cuba; its tobacco fields will rival at once those of Cuba and of the Connecticut and Lebanon and other northern valleys; it is the land of rice. What about cotton, said I to a gentleman whose farm I was traversing. "Oh don't talk to us about cotton; a Florida farmer has no time to fool with it at 8 cents per pound when he can raise vegetables and fruits for the north for such prices as we get." The whole of the Gulf portion of the south is literally, or will be when properly managed, the land of wine and milk and honey, and all beautiful and graceful things together with the great staples to which I have alluded, and others.

Winter Haven has one of the most unique organizations in the state in the form of the Citrus Protection League. The object of the association is to fight against any pest that may injure the groves. By-laws have been adopted and a board are to superintend all spraying of orchards and to conduct any fight against the white fly or other insect that infests the groves. This is a worthy organization.

Complete returns from Tuesday's primary throughout the State cannot be given before Saturday. The Australian ballot which was used was a very long one, containing in many instances over 100 names; and at the large polling places it was impossible for the managers to finish the count in less than twenty-four hours.

ance of this honored servant that there has never been a case of hydrophobia to be found among the official records of the town.

It may be that other Florida towns have been less fortunate than Punta Gorda in thus training the natural intelligence of the alligator to the highest point of effectiveness in the public service, and it is partly in the hope that other towns will emulate our example that this article is written.

We recall the expressions of surprise and astonishment, of an amazement amounting to incredulity, which fell from the lips of visitors to our town, who for the first time witnessed the spectacle, common on our esplanade, of the trained alligator performing nursemaid's duty by taking the children out for an airing in the cool of the afternoon.

Those who have never had occasion to observe the devoted concentration of the alligator when wheeling the perambulator, with as many as four small boys and girls perched gaily on his back, have missed perhaps the most convincing sight that could be offered as an argument in favor of the rescue of this faithful friend from the destruction that threatens this species.

We have said enough to show that the alligator should be preserved and protected. Mention has been made of his honest bark as a moral force. We are anxious to put an end to the traffic in which his honest bark appears in the form of handbags, suit cases etc., and we earnestly urge that a united effort by the public opinion of this State be put forward to save the alligator from extinction.

A Snake Bite Knife.

Chicago Journal:—The British government has been actively fighting snakes in India for a dozen years and more, and still these reptiles kill many thousand natives annually. Sir Lander Brunton recently devised a neat pocket instrument for handy use in case of snake bite, and the Indian government has decided to distribute the apparatus widely among the natives. It consists of a small knife, in the handle of which is a cavity. This is kept filled with permanganate of potash, a powerful antiseptic and caustic. When a person is bitten he immediately cuts the wound open widely and rubs the permanganate upon the raw surface. If the bite is in the extremities and this operation is performed without delay, the treatment is said to be very effective.

In the White Springs Herald of last week, Hon. Nat W. Marion says some awful things about Claude LeWrangle, the distinguished gentleman who has set himself up as censor and political dictator for the whole State of Florida.

"Told you so!" Yes, but it was only a guess and you deserve no great credit for it. No man can reliably foretell the verdict of a petit jury or the result of a primary election with the Australian ballot.